RAJYA SABHA

Wednesday, the 29th December, 1993/the 8th Pausa, 1915 (Saka)

**Written auswers to starred and unstarred Questions set for 24th December 1993*

RESTORATION OF AREA RESTRICTION TO MOCHI COMMUNITY IN GUJARAT

*321. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR : Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of Gujarat has given a proposal in the year 1990 to Government to restore the area restriction applied to the Mochi community in Gujarat; and

(b) if so, what action is being taken by Government in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The proposal of the Government of Gujarat for reimposition of area restriction in respect of Mochi community along with other proposals on revision of Scheduled Caste|Scheduled Tribe lists has been referred to an Advisory Committee constituted by a Resolution dated 13-10-93 for their recommendations.

On receipt of the recommendations of the Advisory Committee necessary action would be taken keeping in view the provisions contained in articles 341 and 342 of the Constitution.

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*The sitting of the Rajya Sabha on 24th day of December, 1993 was cancelled. Answers put down in the lists for that day were laid on the Table of the House on Monday, the 29th December, 1993.

PROGRAMME ON PREVENTION OF DRUG ABUSE

*322. SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government plan to introduce a programme on the prevention of drug abuse as a part of curriculum as well as in extra curricular activities as an indirect means to create awareness;

(b) what is the amount spent on such programmes and other creative programmes during the last year; and

(c) what is the number of patients taking the help of counselling centres and curative treatment ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH) : (a) The subject of drug abuse has already been included in the following textbooks published by the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) :—

(i) Civics for Class VIII ;

(ii) Science for Class X ; and

(iii) Biology for Class XII.

The NCERT textbooks which are meant for use in the schools affiliated to the Central Board of Secondary Education are also available to the State agencies for adoption and adaptation. As per information received from Ministry of Welfare, under its Scheme of Assistance to Voluntary Organisations for Prohibition and Drug Abuse Prevention, Voluntary Organisations are assisted to build awareness about the ill-effects of drug abuse, counselling and treatment.

(b) and (c) Under the above mentioned Scheme of Ministry of Welfare an amount of Rs. 803.00 lakhs was spent and 2,70,173 addicts belonging to various sections of society were benefited last year.